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PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

Report of the Working Group on Minorities on its first session
(Geneva, 28 August-1 September 1995)

Chairman-Rapporteur: Mr. Asbjørn Eide

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Introduction

1. The creation of a working group on minorities was recommended by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in its resolution 1994/4 of 19 August 1994, authorized by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1995/24 of 3 March 1995, and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1995/31 of 25 July 1995.

2. In that resolution the Council authorized the Sub-Commission to establish, initially for a three-year period, an inter-sessional working group consisting of five of its members to meet each year for five working days in order to promote the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities and in particular to:

(a) Review the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration;

(b) Examine possible solutions to problems involving minorities, including the promotion of mutual understanding between and among minorities and governments;

(c) Recommend further measures, as appropriate, for the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

3. In compliance with the above-mentioned resolutions, the Working Group on Minorities held its first session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 28 August to 1 September 1995. It held eight public and two informal meetings. The session was opened by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. José Ayala-Lasso, who made an introductory statement.

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Election of officers

4. At its 1st meeting, on 28 August 1995, the Working Group elected Mr. Asbjørn Eide (Norway) as Chairman-Rapporteur for the three-year period of the mandate of the Working Group.

B. Attendance

5. The session was attended by the following independent experts members of the Sub-Commission as decided by the Sub-Commission at its forty-seventh session (decision 1995/119): Mr. Mohammed Sardar Ali Khan, Mr. José Bengoa, Mr. Stanislav Chernichenko, Mr. Asbjørn Eide and Mr. Ahmed Khalil. It was also attended by Ms. Erica-Irene Daes.

6. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia,

Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam.

7. The following non-member States were represented by observers: Holy See and Switzerland.

8. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented during the session: United Nations Childrens Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, International Labour Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

9. The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were represented:

(a) Category I: World Federation of Democratic Youth, World Muslim Congress;

(b) Category II: African Health and Human Rights Promoters Commission, American Society of International Law, Baha'i International Community, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Habitat International Coalition, Indigenous World Association, International Association Against Torture, International Committee for European Security and Cooperation, International Council of Jewish Women, International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples, International Service for Human Rights, Pax Christi, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Federalist Movement;

(c) Roster: Centre Europe-Tiers Monde, International Association of Educators for World Peace, International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism, Liberation, Minority Rights Group, Planetary Citizens;

(d) Other non-governmental organizations: Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania, Espacio Afro-Americano, Friends of Kashmir, Human Rights International HIJRA International Organization, Mohajir Qoumi Movement, Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, Rehab Hope Fund Incorporated, Rock against Racism, Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, World Sindhi Congress.

C. Documentation

10. The documents before the Working Group are listed in the annex to this report.

D. Organization of work

11. At its 1st meeting, on 28 August 1995, the Working Group adopted the following agenda based on the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.5/1995/WP.1:

1. Opening statement by the High Commissioner for Human Rights

2. Election of the Chairman-Rapporteur

3. Participation in the session

4. Organization of work

5. Review of the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

6. Examination of possible solutions to problems involving minorities, including the promotion of mutual understanding between and among minorities and Governments

7. Recommendations for further measures, as appropriate, for the protection of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

12. In his opening statement, the High Commissioner for Human Rights recalled the mandates entrusted to him by the resolutions of various legislative bodies of the United Nations in repsect of the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and provided an overview of his activities in this field. He stressed that his task and that of the Working Group were closely intertwined and that mutual support was crucial in paving the way for greater understanding and tolerance among communities and nations. He reiterated that close cooperation between his Office and the Working Group was imperative for the success of the activities aimed at ensuring the protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and called upon the Working Group to suggest concrete, constructive and peaceful solutions to minority situations. He concluded by extending his cooperation and that of the Centre in support of the activities of the Working Group and the implementation of its recommendations.

13. The Chairman-Rapporteur made a statement referring, *inter alia*, to the organization of work of the Working Group and proposed to explore the three elements of the mandate as embodied in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/24. The Chairman-Rappporteur stressed the need to take into account first and foremost the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic minorities but also other relevant international instruments. The recommendations on possible ways and means of facilitating the peaceful and constructive solutions to problems involving minorities contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/34/Add.4 could constitute a significant element of the work. It was agreed by the Working Group that after it had dealt with the practical questions related to the

participation in the session, working methods and order of statements, the preliminary examination and implementation of the mandate should be considered. The Chairman-Rapporteur also underscored the need to reflect upon the ways in which the discussions would be conducted so that not only problems but also possible solutions could be identified and constructive proposals made. The Chairman-Rapporteur stressed that he would play an active role in structuring the discussion to encourage a meaningful debate ensured by the active involvement of the members of the Working Group and the observers for Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

E. Participation in the session

14. An exchange of views was held about whether to allow only non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group or to open it to the participation of all non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as had been the practice with regard to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

15. It was decided by the members of the Working Group that participation would be open to all NGOs in order to encourage the exchange of observations and the submission of useful information, in particular in respect of some of the situations of ethnic minorities at the local level. It was agreed that NGOs without consultative status would provide a letter from their organization giving the name of their representative and evidence of their involvement in the protection of the human rights of minorities. It was further decided that academics and professional researchers working on issues relating to minorities could also attend the session, and an official letter confirming their affiliation with an academic institution and indicating the area of research should be provided.

16. Mr. Ali Khan stressed the importance of achieving the widest possible participation in the Working Group meetings. He also emphasized the importance of involving governmental and non-governmental observers, especially in the debates on possible solutions to problems involving minorities, including the promotion of mutual understanding between and among minorities and Governments.

17. Mr. Ali Khan, Mr. Bengoa and Mr. Chernichenko underlined the importance of the participation of the media. The essential role the media plays in shaping public opinion on issues relating to minorities was emphasized and it was suggested that correspondents attend the sessions and publicize their proceedings.

18. The observers of Liberation, the Rehab Hope Fund Inc. and the International Service for Human Rights contended that the existence of the Working Group should be better publicized so as to attract even wider participation by NGOs, which would be encouraged if their role figured on the agenda for the next session. It was suggested that a voluntary fund for the facilitation of participation of NGOs rep esenting minorities be established.

19. The Chairman-Rapporteur stated that in order meaningfully to pursue its task, the Working Group hoped for wide participation, first by government observers who could provide the Working Group with information on steps taken to promote the principles of the Declaration as one function of the Group was to share experiences on such matters; second, by United Nations and regional bodies and agencies which could provide the Working Group with information on their activities in the field; third, by international and national non-governmental organizations which dealt with minority issues as part of their mandate; and finally, by scholars and professional researchers attached to academic institutions who carried out research in the field of minorities and group accommodation and who could provide the Working Group with scientific insight into the issues it was exploring.

II. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE MANDATE OF THE WORKING GROUP

A. Sources of information

20. The members of the Working Group were of the unanimous view that the sources of information should include those mentioned in ECOSOC resolution 1982/34 (i.e. Governments, specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations) as well as experts and recognized authorities in the field.

21. The observer for Norway, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), stressed that representatives of United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and regional organizations should be invited to share their experiences on the promotion and protection of minorities with the Working Group.

22. The observer for Finland called on Governments and NGOs to provide concrete examples of situations involving minorities as a means to seek constructive solutions. He felt, along with the observer for Mexico, that it was crucial for Governments to provide information on a voluntary basis, thereby complementing the reporting procedure under article 40 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other treaty bodies.

23. The observers for the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) expressed their willingness to cooperate with the Working Group and share the information compiled by their respective organizations on issues relating to minorities.

24. The observers for the Mohajir Qoumi Movement and the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania underscored the need for the submission to the Working Group of concrete information both by Governments and minority groups to serve as a basis for the examination of possible solutions to problems involving minorities and to enable the Working Group to engage Governments and minorities in a constructive dialogue. The observer for the International Service for Human Rights recommended, in particular, that observers be encouraged to submit written communications.

25. The Chairman-Rapporteur observed that in addition to information provided by Governments on a voluntary basis, the Working Group could benefit from information contained in the relevant reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights which also referred to information submitted by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The Working Group should also take into account the relevant reports of the special rapporteurs of the Commission and the Sub-Commission. In special cases which required further elaboration, special studies of specific minority situations could be prepared by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development or by the United Nations University.

26. The Chairman-Rapporteur stressed that it was crucial for any constructive dialogue between minorities and Governments on possible solutions and further measures that all observers submit relevant, factual and objective information about concrete situations involving minorities.

B. The role of the Working Group

27. The Chairman-Rapporteur pointed to the fact that the Working Group was entrusted with the sole task of promoting and protecting the rights of persons belonging to minorities. Its mandate, in accordance with Commission resolution 1995/24, was to find ways and means to implement the rights contained in the Declaration, in particular, equality, non-discrimination and the respect for the territorial integrity and political independence of States; to examine possible solutions to problems involving minorities; and to propose further measures which could be adopted to better promote and protect their rights, safeguard their interests and preserve their characteristics. The role of the Working Group was discussed within the framework of that mandate.

28. The observer for Austria favoured a step-by-step approach to the realization of the mandate of the Working Group. Those steps could include consideration of legislation, practical measures and the promotion of relevant rights included in the Declaration. Confidence-building measures were considered to be of paramount importance in promoting greater understanding and tolerance among minorities and Governments. He therefore suggested that the Working Group devote more of its time to studying the experiences of different States in their accommodation of minority concerns.

29. The observer for Norway, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, welcomed the establishment of the Working Group as a monitoring mechanism for the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities. The observer for Finland added that the deliberations of the Working Group could complement other monitoring mechanisms set up by relevant United Nations treaty bodies.

30. The observer for Bangladesh expressed the opinion that the focus of the Working Group should not be on minorities per se, but on certain minorities who were being discriminated against and who thus found themselves in a subordinate social position. It was therefore suggested that the scope of the Working Group's mandate would be clearer if it focused on vulnerable minorities and non-dominant sections of the population within States. The

observer questioned in particular whether problems were to be considered in the abstact or reference be made to specific situations and, if so, according to what modality, and whether the Working Group should act as an arbitrator.

31. The observers for Bangladesh, China and the Islamic Republic of Iran considered that although there was an apparent need for concrete information to be presented before it, the Working Group should not become a forum for complaints, as such a function was not included within its terms of reference and would encroach upon the mandates of the Sub-Commission and the Commission. In order to facilitate the search for solutions to problems involving minorities and the exchange of relevant experiences, it was important to promote a constructive dialogue among Governments and minorities on the basis of mutual consent.

32. The observer for Switzerland emphasized that it was important not to limit the work of the Working Group to the compilation of information on national legislation but rather to encourage States and minority groups to express their needs and facilitate the exchange of experiences.

33. The observers for Liberation and the Mohajir Qoumi Movement of Pakistan proposed that the Working Group should be empowered to play the role of an effective mediator between the interests of States and minority groups.

34. Mr. Ali Khan, Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Chernichenko and Mr. Khalil pointed out that, in accordance with its mandate, concrete information on situations involving minorities should be submitted to the Working Group, to be referred to as a basis for dialogue on possible solutions to problems involving minorities. Such information could be provided in an objective rather than an accusatory manner, and it was the Chairman's purview to decide what information would be admissible.

35. Concerning the role of the Working Group in general, Mr. Bengoa felt it was important to avoid an overlap with the work undertaken in other forums such as the Sub-Commission and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations. With a view to preserving the identity and characteristics of minority populations, he suggested that all relevant issues should be considered within the framework of a multicultural society and that new approaches to minority issues, instead of being based merely on tolerance and acceptance, should be elaborated in a way which contributed to cultural diversity. In that respect, he called on the Working Group to consider the following: analysis of national legislation; the role of education at the international, national and community levels in maintaining culture, language and other characteristics of minorities; and the relationship between the media and the issues discussed.

36. The Chairman-Rapporteur pointed out that as a forum for dialogue and mutual understanding, the Working Group aimed at facilitating the sharing of experiences, *inter alia* in accordance with article 7 of the Declaration, based on factual information submitted in a concrete and specific manner. The Working Group sought ideas and proposals for constructive group accommodation along the lines of the Declaration based on actual experiences. Although he shared the view that vulnerable groups such as refugees, asylum seekers, aliens and children also need protection in certain situations, these exceeded

the mandate of the Working Group and the protection of such groups should be examined within the framework of other human rights instruments and organizations.

III. REVIEWING THE PROMOTION AND PRACTICAL REALIZATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL OR ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

37. The members of the Working Group agreed that its main purpose was to find approaches which would facilitate peaceful and constructive relations between minorities and the rest of society, based on general human rights principles and those contained in the Declaration. In particular, the Chairman-Rapporteur pointed out that the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration could be facilitated by greater flexibility on the part of States, allowing for "pluralism in togetherness", whereby groups could maintain and develop their own identity and characteristics.

38. Some observers drew the attention of the members of the Working Group to the measures introduced in certain States to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities, while others reported on the means by which minority concerns had been accommodated by States, and made concrete suggestions as to how the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration could be strengthened. Consideration was given to past minority treaty obligations, in particular those entered into under the aegis of the League of Nations.

39. The observer for Slovakia identified some constant elements in Slovak policy relating to national minorities in respect of parliamentary democracy, the rule of law and civil society. The observer recalled the various instruments relating to the protection of minorities within the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and mentioned that standard setting in the field of minority protection was enacted within the legal system of the Slovak Republic. Of particular relevance were the positive measures taken with reference to the prevention of discrimination, education, involvement of minorities in decision-making and the provision of financial and political support. In addition to the Constitution there existed 34 other laws directly or indirectly connected with the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In particular, the Slovak Parliament had ratified the European Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and incorporated its norms into national legislation.

40. The observer for Austria noted that the various minorities in Austria had a long tradition of living together, that the legislation protected the rights of minorities and that advisory or ethnic councils safeguarded the interests of ethnic groups. Reference was made to the "Federal Government General Report on the Situation of Ethnic Groups in Austria" which described their geographical distribution, numerical size and history. The Austrian authorities encouraged measures and support projects designed to preserve and safeguard the existence of ethnic groups, their characteristics, attributes and rights.

41. The observer for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia stated that the Republic was composed of a number of national minorities, in particular, Albanians, Turks, Romas, Serbs, Vlachs and others. The Constitution and other laws guaranteed national minorities all rights derived from international norms and standards. The observer for Venezuela also mentioned some of the minorities in his country and the observer for Algeria stated that the rights of the Berber community were guaranteed, in particular the right to use their own language through the provision of radio and television broadcasts in Berber and the option to study and be taught in the Berber language.

42. The observer for Bangladesh proposed that a study be undertaken on the constitutions of all the States Members of the United Nations to identify which States provided non-discriminatory treatment and protection to all citizens and population groups, which States did not expressly provide such guarantees and which States provided preferential status to some sections of the population. This would provide a basis on which to determine specific modalities that would allow States to assess whether there existed a situation involving a population group requiring special measures for the protection of their rights.

43. The observer for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia suggested that the establishment of a monitoring mechanism for the effective realization of the Declaration, of which the Working Group could be an integral component, would be of major assistance to Governments and would allow for an exchange of views on issues pertaining to minorities. With a view to upgrading this mechanism, however, the observer considered it necessary to embark on the elaboration of a draft convention on the rights of national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

44. The observer for the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation expressed the view that the Declaration itself should not be a limiting factor in the debates of the Working Group, either in terms of time or as regards the minority protection obligations entered into by States outside the framework of the United Nations, in particular under the aegis of the League of Nations. The Working Group should consider not only the rights contained in the Declaration but also the experiences gained from past efforts at minority protection. The League of Nations mechanisms and methods should complement the present situation of minorities, within and outside the United Nations system.

45. In respect of the status of treaty obligations under the aegis of the League of Nations, Mr. Ali Khan referred to the June 1993 report prepared by Mr. Thornberry for the Minority Rights Group and stated that if treaty obligations were breached, it was up to the States concerned to enforce them, in addition to the notion of jus cogens which provided for pacta sunt servanda. There was nothing in the Declaration, suggesting an "escape clause" from previous treaty obligations, article 8 was cited in particular in that regard. Mr. Chernichenko added that in certain cases the United Nations assumed responsibility for obligations of the League of Nations as in the case of Namibia, and previous arrangements could be enforced should the General Assembly adopt a decision to that effect.

46. Concluding the discussion on the practical realization of the Declaration, the Chairman-Rapporteur thanked the members and observers for the many useful comments and suggestions. Referring to the minority obligations undertaken in specific legal instruments by some States during the period of the League of Nations, he noted that it was necessary to distinguish between two different issues. One was whether those obligations were still binding under international law. It was difficult to take a general stand on the issue; a fuller investigation would have to be made in each case. No competent United Nations organ had made any decision which would extinguish the obligations under those instruments, and it was doubtful whether that could even be done by the United Nations. An entirely different matter was whether the United Nations as successor to the League of Nations, had taken over the implementation functions related to those legal instruments. In that regard, it was held that there had been no succession in respect of the implementation functions. The more general system of human rights adopted after the Second World War, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities, now formed the basis of the functions of the United Nations. Universal human rights related to all States, whereas the minority system under the League of Nations applied only to a few States. The main task of the Working Group would be to promote the implementation of the 1992 Declaration. In so doing, it was not excluded to take into account specific obligations undertaken by States, whether those stemmed from the time of the League of Nations or from more recent years. Such obligations might include the bilateral treaties adopted by several States in Europe within the context of the so-called Stability Pact adopted at a meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Paris in March 1995. The continuation of obligations undertaken by States under treaties and agreements to which they were parties was also, as pointed out by Mr. Ali Khan, envisaged in the 1992 Declaration at article 8.

IV. EXAMINATION OF POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS INVOLVING MINORITIES, INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN AND AMONG MINORITIES AND GOVERNMENTS

47. The Working Group heard with interest the interventions made under this agenda item. A number of observers provided examples of concrete situations involving minorities and highlighted possible approaches to solving them. While examples of forms of political organization which could prove effective in promoting and protecting the rights of minorities were provided, most observers suggested concrete solutions to problems involving minorities, including: the exchange of views and past experiences; increased cooperation and coordination; the role of educational policies; and the contribution of confidence-building measures and the advisory services and technical assistance programmes of the United Nations to the promotion of mutual understanding and greater tolerance between and among minorities and Governments.

48. The observer for the Republic of Korea drew the attention of the Working Group to the situation of Korean residents in Japan who were not eligible for full coverage under the Japanese welfare system and faced other forms of discrimination because they were not citizens. They should be

regarded as a minority group and benefit from equal access to the welfare system and State protection, especially since they fulfil their obligations towards Japanese society.

49. The observer for HIJRA International Organization referred to the need to recognize the contribution the Berber language could make to the promotion of linguistic and cultural diversity and the protection of fundamental freedoms in Arab countries. The observer also referred to the mistreatment of Arab asylum-seekers, especially those from Algeria, in host countries and called on Governments to apply the international asylum law.

50. With reference to the status of the Arab Palestinian minority in Israel, the representative of Habitat International Coalition drew the attention of the Working Group to the fact that the State of Israel refused to relate to the Arabs as a national minority, guaranteeing them only the right to worship. Proposals for possible solutions included acknowledging the national rights of the Arab Palestinians in Israel, recognizing the Arab villages in Israel and providing them with all the necessary services, putting an end to the policies of discrimination, house demolition, forced evictions, land confiscation and human rights violations and resolving the problem of the internally displaced persons who lived in Israel.

51. The observer for Switzerland mentioned that certain forms of State organization such as federalism and regionalism could effectively contribute to accommodation among and between minority groups and Governments and promote the rights of persons belonging to minorities. Federalism was a system of political organization based on power sharing, which, within the confines of territorial integrity and national unity of States, favoured tolerance, mutual understanding and respect between men and women and the various entities which made up the State. As for the protection of minorities, the Federal State allowed for the recognition of a certain degree of legislative, executive, judicial and financial autonomy which was of prime importance for minorities as it reinforced the feeling that they could participate directly in the exercise of power. In addition, federalism channelled the aspirations of minorities, guaranteeing their existence, their right to an identity and their participation in national affairs. Well-organized federalism was a means to ensure the perpetuity of the State as it was the expression of an institutionalized dialogue that required the constant search, in the common interest, for a common denominator between often contradictory interests.

52. The representative of Espacio Afro-Americano called on the Working Group to consider autonomy as a means to ensure the effective participation of minorities and requested that a practical commitment be made to eradicate social inequalities and discrimination. Particular reference was made to the recommendations of Mr. Eide contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/34/Add.4, as conducive to the improvement of the situation of persons belonging to minorities.

53. The representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) stressed that very often the violations of the rights of minorities was the cause of population displacement. Minority populations were particularly vulnerable to forcible displacement and other forms of "ethnic" relocation and population transfer policies. In UNHCR's view, a

focus on the prevention of forcible displacement fell within the mandate of the Working Group which could thus examine legislation, policies and measures resulting in forcible displacement. The examination of possible solutions by the Working Group was an important corollary to UNHCR's efforts to promote voluntary repatriation.

54. The observer for Austria proposed that the Working Group make an inventory of the issues to be considered and solved during the three-year mandate of the Working Group. As emphasized by the World Conference on Human Rights, advisory services could greatly contribute to solving problems involving minorities. Confidence-building measures were considered important for the promotion of greater understanding and tolerance among minorities and Governments, and it was suggested that the Working Group should devote more time to studying the experience of different States in their accommodation of minority concerns.

55. The observer for Ethiopia proposed that the Working Group should discuss the means by which States could cooperate and exchange views on experiences in the field as part of the discussion of possible solutions to problems involving minorities and the attention of the Working Group could thereby be drawn to specific concrete situations.

56. The representative of the International Labour Organization called on the Working Group to recommend that Governments address themselves to organizations such as ILO and UNESCO for technical assistance in solving minority problems which have been identified.

57. The representative of UNESCO mentioned that one of the goals of his organization was the reinforcement of the endogenous capacity of minorities with respect to cultural programmes and the promotion of their tangible and intangible heritage, and the provision of technical assistance for the protection of their cultural heritage. He questioned whether societies which were highly pluralistic offered tangible solutions to minority issues and suggested that the Working Group could focus on certain experiences and evaluate their replicability.

58. The observer for the Minority Rights Group stressed that well-designed educational policies could provide solutions to minority issues and referred to a report of the Minority Rights Group entitled "Education Rights and Minorities". The principles concerning the right to education of minorities contained in document E/CN.4/1995/84 were referred to in particular, as they reflected their rights to existence and identity and their right to education.

59. The observer for the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania recalled that it would be useful to refer to Mr. Eide's recommendations (see E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/34/Add.1) as a guideline for reviewing the Declaration and that it might also be useful to devise some courses of affirmative action and to discuss the various machineries which could be established as a means to provide recourse and conciliation to resolve problems involving minorities.

60. The observer for Liberation mentioned that mechanisms for conflict resolution should be improved and strengthened, in particular with regard to dispersed but non-nomadic minorities.

61. Mr. Bengoa considered that the issue of forced displacement of minority groups could be further discussed as a means to arrive at possible solutions and the prevention of population displacement in the future. He emphasized the importance of an analysis of the causes of conflicts to determine the solutions to be sought. He highlighted that cultural autonomy could be a valuable regime to accommodate the needs of minorities and ensure the preservation of their characteristics, and added that the media could also contribute to tolerance between minorities and the rest of the population.

62. The Chairman-Rapporteur stressed that minority problems should be identified and proposals for solutions submitted to the Working Group. On the issue of affirmative action a distinction should be made between transient measures aimed at ensuring equality between minority groups and the majority - measures to be phased out once the goal had been achieved - and measures aimed at preserving the identity of minority groups for as long as they wished.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER MEASURES, AS APPROPRIATE, FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL OR ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

63. With a view to reinforcing the protection of persons belonging to minorities, many observers proposed closer cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the international community, and stressed the implementation of the relevant rights contained in all international human rights instruments. Others underscored the need to exchange information within and outside the United Nations system and identify the type of information required for future action, while other observers made more concrete proposals for further measures to be undertaken.

64. The observer for UNESCO mentioned that his organization was currently gathering material on national legislation and policies concerning the protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities with a view to identifying the status of the protection afforded to minorities at the national and local levels. This, he suggested, could provide the Working Group with a basis for further reflection and action. Both the observers for UNESCO and ILO expressed their willingness to cooperate with the Working Group in exchanging views on implementing measures and further courses of action for the effective promotion and protection of the rights of minorities.

65. The observer for El Salvador suggested that further information on the role of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies concerning the protection of minorities could be obtained during the annual meeting of the special rapporteurs and chairmen of the working groups of the Commission and that it was incumbent on the Secretariat to request the relevant information.

66. The observer for ILO considered that an important part of the Working Group's mandate should be to review the actions taken at the national and international levels, not simply in application of one instrument or within the mandate of a single organization but globally, in order to recommend action that was beyond the mandate of any one organization.

67. The observer for Austria mentioned that many minority groups actually did not have "kin" States calling for the protection of minorities within the framework of bilateral treaties and that it might therefore be interesting to examine the differences in the protection of various minority groups within one State as a basis for action.

68. The observers for Austria and Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries) stressed the need for close cooperation between all organizations and entities of the United Nations system, including the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Centre for Human Rights, the ILO, UNESCO and UNHCR. Emphasis was also placed on cooperation with regional organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and the Organization of African Unity. It was also emphasized that the advisory services of the Centre for Human Rights could assist interested Governments in designing and implementing national minority policies by making advisory services and technical assistance available to States and disseminating information concerning the accommodation of minority concerns as widely as possible.

69. The observer for UNHCR suggested that the Working Group utilize the full range of existing human rights instruments, including humanitarian law, UNESCO standards concerning cultural rights, ILO instruments on non-discrimination and the protection of the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples. He called on the Working Group to make recommendations by drawing on the experiences of international organizations such as UNHCR and by studying existing mechanisms to determine if they should be strengthened or if new ones needed to be developed. The capacity of the Centre for Human Rights to deal with the important issues concerning minorities should be strengthened.

70. The observer for the International Service for Human Rights suggested that the Working Group should be entrusted with the examination of thematic reports to the Commission on Human Rights, in particular the recommendations of the special rapporteurs, the use made of the programme of advisory services and the establishment of an early-warning and rapid-action system. He added that it might be useful for the Commission to appoint a special rapporteur on the rights of minorities. With a view to the next session of the Working Group, the members could consider the preparation of several studies on aspects concerning the violations of the rights of minorities such as the role of the media or the protection of languages.

71. The observer for the Rehab Hope Fund Inc. and the Indigenous World Association suggested that task forces on specific minority issues should be established to provide an opportunity for an exchange of views between Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The importance of preparing the next session of the Working Group well in advance was underscored and the involvement by all parties in joint projects concerned with minorities was considered useful.

72. The observer for the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom mentioned the need for a serious study to be undertaken on the situation of minorities living in Western Europe.

73. On the issue of education, the observer for the Minority Rights Group suggested that the Working Group could consider the various educational policies of States which should reflect a balance between the measures to promote and protect the identity of minorities and those aimed at promoting tolerance and understanding of the society as a whole. The representative of Rock against Racism reiterated the value of promoting greater tolerance and understanding, especially on a personal level, and stressed that the existence and contents of treaties between Governments should be better publicized among the public.

74. Mr. Bengoa suggested that the role and function of early-warning systems and the contribution of the advisory services and technical assistance programmes to preventing tensions between and among minority groups from escalating should be examined.

75. The Chairman-Rapporteur underlined the importance of cooperation with other United Nations organs and mechanisms so as to achieve greater coordination within the United Nations context regarding the protection of minorities. Special reference was made to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the important work undertaken by treaty bodies such as the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. He made allusion to thematic rapporteurs such as the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance and on racism and racial discrimination as well as the special rapporteurs on country situations. The Chairman-Rapporteur underscored the need for cooperation and coordination between the Working Group and United Nations bodies and specialized agencies such as UNHCR, UNESCO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the United Nations University (UNU) and the World Bank. He also referred to regional organizations dealing with minority issues such as the OSCE and its High Commissioner for National Minorities, the Council of Europe, the OAU and the OAS.

VI. OTHER ISSUES

76. Some observers expressed the opinion that the Working Group should try to find and adopt a working definition of a minority group or minorities which would facilitate the practical realization of its mandate and thus contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities. Other observers, however, were of the view that the term "minorities" could not be defined and attempting to arrive at a definition would prove not only extremely time-consuming but also counter-productive for the advancement of the activities of the Working Group.

77. With reference to the various categories to be included in the term "minority", the observer for Mexico stated that it was important to have a universally acceptable definition, covering the protection of vulnerable groups which made up minorities in a given society. The view was shared by the observers for Cuba, Nicaragua and Nigeria that migrant workers should be included in the definition, in particular as they constituted a social minority which was often exploited by the host country, leading to the erosion

of their rights. The observer for Nigeria suggested the addition of refugees and possibly indigenous populations to the categories already mentioned, and the observers for Cuba and the Republic of Korea further proposed not to limit the definition of "minorities" to citizens.

78. The observers for Austria and Switzerland suggested that a distinction be made between "minorities", "indigenous peoples" and "migrant workers" and the observer for the Philippines stressed that a distinction should be made between minorities who have resided in a country for a long time and those who have recently arrived.

79. The observers for El Salvador and Nigeria considered the quantitative element in the working definition proposed by Mr. Eide in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/34 as too restrictive, thereby failing to embrace all the minority situations in the world. A minority did not always consist of less than half the population, as exemplified in many African States where no ethnic group made up more than 20 per cent of the entire population. That aspect was considered important as the status of a minority could change over time - a minority could become a majority or new minority groups could emerge.

80. Mr. Chernichenko emphasized the need to attempt to define the term "minority" and considered the issue of the interrelationship between minority status and the question of citizenship as important. Therefore, he proposed to prepare a study on this issue at the level of the Sub-Commission. As to the substantive part of the work, he suggested to begin with the elaboration of a definition of the terms "national", "ethnic", "religious", and "linguistic" minorities and then try to arrive at a general overall definition to which the deliberations and actions of the Working Group could refer.

81. Together with Mr. Khalil, Mr. Chernichenko reiterated the idea that vulnerable groups such as migrant workers, asylum-seekers and refugees only qualified as minorities if they also shared common national or ethnic, religious and linguistic characteristics. It was important to differentiate between minorities who had lived in a country for a long time and those who were recent arrivals, and he raised the issue of the recognition of minority groups either by the State in which they lived or by themselves. Mr. Chernichenko questioned whether special protection should be granted to minorities who did not claim minority status despite the fact that they were considered minorities. With reference to the question of domicile and nomadic population groups who moved from territory to territory and State to State, in his view, the habitual residence criteria should be applied.

82. The observer for Venezuela considered that it would be sufficient for the purposes of the Working Group to discuss a working definition in the light of concrete examples rather than to concentrate on a theoretical discussion.

83. The observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States of America stated that it would be difficult to arrive at an acceptable definition. The latter considered it unacceptable that reference to residence be omitted from the definition of minorities as that would entitle illegal immigrants to the same protection as that granted to specific minorities in a given country.

84. The observer for Switzerland mentioned that similar discussions on the definition of minorities had already been held during the drafting process of the Council of Europe's Framework Convention on the Protection of Minorities. No definition of minorities was arrived at due, in his opinion, to the fact that each minority had its own specific problems.

85. Mr. Ali Khan expressed scepticism about defining "minority" which, in his opinion, was not definable. He suggested that the working definition proposed by Mr. Eide in his study be used for the purpose of the debates as it was sufficient to understand and discuss the problems which minorities faced. He also mentioned definitions arrived at by the Permanent and later the International Court of Justice which should also be taken into account in the deliberations of the Group.

86. Mr. Ali Khan stressed that if a group did not share common characteristics, it could not be considered a minority. Migrant workers and nomads are a difficult group to deal with as all too often their movements are of an inter-State nature. With reference to nomadic population groups, he felt that they should be assessed on the basis of domicile of choice or residence.

87. Mr. Bengoa suggested that a working definition of minorities would have to take into account the long history of efforts on this issue. He noted that the concept of minorities was inherently dynamic as every group evolved and developed. In his opinion, the Working Group could adopt the definition of Mr. Deschênes, former Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Minorities, which contained both objective and subjective elements. Criteria should be devised to distinguish between minorities and indigenous populations as the concept of minorities was rather ambiguous - there existed settled minorities who have resided in a country for a long time, and recent minorities who have arisen from recent migrations. Was the same set of norms to be applied to both categories of minorities? The question needed to be addressed by the Working Group. With specific reference to a definition, he considered that a restrictive definition might not cover the more complex categories of minorities and stressed that a definition should not be a sine qua non for continuing the discussions.

88. The Chairman-Rapporteur expressed doubts about the usefulness of a long debate on a definition of minorities, an issue which had been solved neither by the United Nations nor by other bodies such as the Council of Europe. It was essential to focus on the appropriate rights required for different kinds of groups. The main concern of migrant workers and refugees was to obtain protection of their ordinary human rights, civil and political as well as social and economic. Those issues were addressed not in the Declaration but in the general human rights instruments and in specific instruments relating to those categories of persons, for example the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which unfortunately had not yet entered into force due to the lack of ratifications, but also to the relevant ILO conventions. Mention should also be made of the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live. There were also separate instruments dealing with refugees and asylum seekers. When, however, some

migrant workers formed part of particular ethnic, religious or linguistic groups, they might be entitled to at least some of the protection envisaged under the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to Minorities.

89. As to the question of citizenship, the Chairman-Rapporteur shared the view reflected in the General Comment made by the Human Rights Committee in 1994 on article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to the effect that citizenship was not a necessary requirement for a person to belong to an ethnic, religious or linguistic minority. He also noted that a State's obligations under the Covenant should, in conformity with article 2, paragraph 1, extend "to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction", the only exceptions being the rights to vote, to be elected and to have access to public service (art. 25) and the right to enter one's own country (art. 12, para. 4). No such exception is made for article 27; it must therefore be assumed that the general scope of application under article 2, paragraph 1, applies.

90. The Chairman-Rapporteur observed that it appeared to be justified to provide more comprehensive linguistic or cultural protection to settled groups than to those who had only recently arrived. Distinctions could be made if they were reasonable, proportional to their purpose and not particularly invidious to other groups.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

91. The deliberations of the first session of the Working Group on Minorities demonstrated that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities is a vital issue. This was manifested in particular in the participation of a great number of observers for Governments and representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

92. While some observers intervened on specific questions involving minorities, possible solutions and further measures, most of the observers made substantial contributions to the elaboration of the draft agenda for the second session and the contents of the annotated agenda.

A. Organization of the next session

93. The Working Group heard suggestions for wider participation in the Group, in particular of non-governmental organizations and representatives of minorities without consultative status with ECOSOC, who were especially familiar with the situation of ethnic minorities at the local level. Special attention should be paid to the involvement of the media, the contribution of academics and researchers and increased publicity of the proceedings of the Working Group. The Working Group decided that in addition to government observers and representatives of United Nations specialized agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC, participation would be open to all non-governmental organizations and representatives of minorities, academics and professional researchers attached to academic institutions.

B. Questions relating to the mandate of the Working Group

1. Sources of information

94. Many observers expressed the view that information on experiences of the promotion and protection of minorities should be shared as widely as possible with the Working Group, and that information on concrete examples of situations involving minorities should be provided as a means to arrive at suggestions for possible solutions to problems involving minorities. It was decided by the Working Group that all observers could submit relevant, factual and objective information about concrete situations involving minorities, as a basis for a constructive dialogue on possible solutions and further measures. In particular, it was stressed that Governments could provide information on a voluntary basis, thereby complementing reporting procedures under other treaty bodies, and that information contained in the relevant reports of the Secretary-General and the special rapporteurs might also be of benefit to the Working Group. In cases which required further elaboration, it was suggested that specific studies be prepared by, for example, the UNRISD or the United Nations University.

2. The role of the Working Group

95. The Working Group heard with interest the suggestions made on its future role, including proposals to consider national legislation, practical measures and ways to promote the rights contained in the Declaration. Some observers felt that the Working Group should be a forum for the exchange of relevant experiences or that it could act as a monitoring body, while others contended that it should play the role of a mediator between the interests of the State and minority groups. The Working Group decided that, in accordance with its mandate, it should act as a forum for dialogue and the exchange of ideas, information and experiences leading to proposals for constructive group accommodation and further measures to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities. It was stressed that the Working Group was not to be a chamber for complaints. In order for it to carry out its role, the Working Group called for the submission of factual information on concrete situations involving minorities.

C. Reviewing the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration

96. The Working Group welcomed the many suggestions made by the observers in respect of the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration. Of particular interest were the examples provided, and suggestions made, on ways in which minority concerns could be accommodated and their rights protected, including the adoption of national legislation, the establishment of advisory or ethnic councils, and measures to preserve their existence and characteristics. The Working Group clarified some of the issues related to the status of past minority treaty obligations entered into, in particular under the aegis of the League of Nations. The Working Group hoped that further ways and means would be suggested for the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration at future sessions. The Working Group decided that at its second session, priority attention would be given to the constitutional and main legal provisions protecting the existence and identity

of minorities, the rights to use their own language, profess and practise their religion and enjoy their own culture, the effective participation of minorities, educational issues, national recourse and conciliation machineries, regional mechanisms for the protection of minorities, the contribution of advisory services and technical assistance, and cooperation and coordination with the international community.

D. Examination of possible solutions to problems involving minorities, including the promotion of mutual understanding between and among minorities and Governments

97. The Working Group expressed its appreciation to the observers who drew the attention of the members to concrete situations involving minorities and provided examples of group accommodation and measures to safeguard the interests, identity and characteristics of minorities. Of particular interest were the concrete proposals made for solutions to problems involving minorities, including the provision of technical assistance, confidence-building measures, improved cooperation and coordination especially with the specialized agencies, well-designed educational policies, mechanisms for conflict prevention, and the implementation of the recommendations of the Chairman-Rapporteur contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/34/Add.4. The Working Group called on observers to continue to provide information on specific minority problems and suggest ways and means in which these could be resolved peacefully. In the light of the proposals made, the Working Group decided to include the following items for discussion at its second session: the examination of the causes and nature of the problems affecting minorities, the facilitation of dialogue between minorities and Governments, technical cooperation, prevention and early warning systems and the role of the media.

E. Recommendations for further measures, as appropriate, for the protection of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities

98. The Working Group welcomed the suggestions made for further measures, including the provision of advisory services and technical assistance following the identification of minority problems, the establishment of an early warning and rapid action system, the coordination between the bodies and organs of the United Nations, Governments, the specialized agencies, and international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The Working Group called on observers to consider further measures for the protection of persons belonging to minorities, which could act as examples or be replicated in situations involving minorities which are characterized by similar conditions.

F. Other matters

99. Concerning the contribution to thematic issues, the Working Group appreciated the steps undertaken by the High Commissioner for Human Rights under his mandate regarding minorities in compliance with General Assembly resolutions 48/141 and 49/192. The Group recommended that he continue to pay particular attention, in his ongoing dialogue with Governments, to issues involving minorities, and make technical assistance and advisory services programmes, information and education activities available.

100. The Working Group recommended that, within the framework of its mandate, further steps should be taken to coordinate the activities of the various bodies and organs of the United Nations system and those of the international human rights community. In particular, the Centre for Human Rights was requested to report to the Working Group on components dealing with minority issues within the technical cooperation projects, and on ways to strengthen such components. An invitation should be extended to the Chairman-Rapporteur of the Working Group to participate in the annual meeting of the chairmen of working groups and special rapporteurs.

101. The Working Group decided to undertake the following tasks in conjunction with the Secretariat:

(a) To prepare annotations to the provisional agenda of its next session;

(b) To request relevant extracts from States providing information under their treaty reporting obligations;

(c) To invite Governments to submit information on their minority legislation and policy which would complement the information already contained in their reports to the relevant treaty bodies;

(d) To invite the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, the specialized agencies as well as regional organizations, in particular the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its High Commissioner for National Minorities, to submit information on issues considered and experiences gained;

(e) To invite international and national non-governmental organizations to submit information about their activities contributing to the implementation of the mandate of the Working Group;

(f) To disseminate the information about the activity of the Working Group and its second session to Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(g) To request the Centre for Human Rights to update the fact-sheet on minority rights.

VIII. FUTURE WORK AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SESSION

102. At its 8th meeting, on 1 September 1995, the Working Group adopted proposals for the form and content of the present report which would be drafted later by the Chairman-Rapporteur and sent for final approval to the members of the Working Group.

103. It was decided that the decisions recorded and the additional suggestions of the Chairman-Rapporteur would be included in the provisional agenda for the second session. The main items to be discussed and the pertinent details would be included in an annotated agenda to be prepared by the

Chairman-Rapporteur and the Secretariat. The time-limit for discussion of the definition, attributes and categorization of minorities during the 1996 session was set at a minimum of one meeting, and a maximum of two.

104. It was agreed that the provisional agenda for the second session would include, *inter alia*, the following items: reviewing the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration; questions of definitions, attributes and categorization of minorities; examination of possible solutions involving minorities; recommendations for further ways and means for the protection of minorities.

105. The following provisional agenda was prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to the request of the Working Group on Minorities at its first session and adopted by the Group:

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Organization of work

3. (a) Reviewing the promotion and practical realization of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;

   (b) Examining possible solutions to problems involving minorities, including the promotion of mutual understanding between and among minorities and Governments;

   (c) Recommending further measures, as appropriate, for the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities

4. Questions of definitions, attributes and categorizations of minorities

5. The future role of the Working Group

6. Other matters

7. Adoption of the draft provisional agenda for the third session

8. Adoption of the report.

ANNEX

List of documents before the Working Group on Minorities at its first session

Symbol	Title
E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.5/1995/WP.1	Provisional agenda
General Assembly resolution 47/135	Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/33	Possible ways and means of facilitating the peaceful and constructive solution of problems involving minorities. Report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Sub-Commission resolution 1994/4
E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/33/Add.1	Idem. Reply of Minority Rights Group - Finland
E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/33/Add.2	Idem. Comments submitted by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: measures to be taken at the national level
A/49/415 and Add.1	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.4/1995/84	Report of the Secretary-General on the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities
E/CN.4/1995/98	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
E/1995/112	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on social, humanitarian and human rights questions: reports of subsidiary bodies, conferences and related questions: human rights questions
E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/36 and Corr.1	Working paper containing suggestions for a comprehensive programme for the prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities, prepared by Mr. Asbjørn Eide pursuant to Sub-Commission resolution 1993/43

Symbol	Title
E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/34/Add.4	Possible ways and means of facilitating the peaceful and constructive solution of problems involving minorities: report submitted by Mr. Asbjørn Eide: recommendations
CCPR/C/21/Rev.1/Add.5	General comments adopted by the Human Rights Committee under article 40, paragraph 4, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

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